

Citizen Design Team Continues work on Context Sensitive Design of Mack Hatcher Parkway Extension

Franklin, Tenn.—The Citizen Design Team (CDT), in conjunction with Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) and City of Franklin, continue their efforts to develop a Context Sensitive Design (CSD) for both the new western extension and improvements to the existing eastern portion of the Mack Hatcher Parkway. Working together since March 2006, the CDT has reached consensus on many important design elements and continues working toward public meetings to be held late this year.



In December 2005, TDOT announced the final alignment for Mack Hatcher Parkway and recommended the utilization of a CSD process. Since that time the CDT has been meeting regularly to discuss the various design elements associated with the improvement and extension of Mack Hatcher Parkway. Thus far, the following events have been completed within the CSD process:

- Wilbur Smith Associates from Franklin, Tennessee, has been working with the CDT and TDOT to facilitate the CSD process and implement design solutions for Mack Hatcher Parkway.
- The design group has met on ten (10) different occasions to discuss design elements.
- Consensus has been reached on the following key design elements:
 - Four distinct character segments along the MHP route
 - A final vision statement, opportunities and constraints, and goals and objectives for each of the four character segments
 - A Contextual Understanding Report that guides design discussions and the development of design recommendations
 - A typical section for the MHP facility (four lane, limited access facility)
 - Access points at Hillsboro Road, Del Rio Pike, Highway 96 West, Carter's Creek Pike, Columbia Avenue, Southeast Parkway, Polk Place, Lewisburg Avenue, Royal Oaks Boulevard, Highway 96 / Murfreesboro Road, Liberty Pike, Cool Springs Boulevard, Franklin Road, and Spencer Creek Road (additional points between Highway 96 and Carters Creek Pike and at Hillview Lane also to be considered).
 - Based on projected traffic volumes and an attempt to balance local priorities, MHP will have a mix of at grade signalized intersections and roundabouts.
 - A curb and gutter typical section has been developed along with the incorporation of a Multi-Use Path to serve bike and pedestrian users.



Mack Hatcher Parkway Context Sensitive Design

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"The Mack Hatcher Parkway Context Sensitive Design (CSD) process represents one of TDOT's first applications of this innovative approach on a project just entering the preliminary design phase of work. TDOT has previously used the CSD approach on projects already underway as a means of resolving conflicts among stakeholders. The Mack Hatcher Parkway project provides citizens, the City of Franklin, and TDOT the opportunity to work together on design issues prior to the development of conflicts or entrenched positions on design issues. We are pleased that the team has jumped right into the work and are already seeing ideas emerge that can make this a showcase project supported by the full community."

- **Ed Cole**, TDOT Chief of Environment and Planning

"I believe that the process will not only establish a design for Mack Hatcher Parkway that will go a long way in satisfying the stakeholders, but will be a model for projects in the future, both state and local."

- **Joe Horne**, Williamson County Planning Director

"I have been very impressed with the dedication and input of the Citizen Design Team and the engagement of our Agency Resource Team (ART) partners. The group has consistently worked toward a MHP facility that will not only meet the purpose and need of the project to move traffic safely and efficiently, but will also blend with and enhance the character and nature of its surroundings."

- **Jerry Stump**, Vice President and Project Manager with Wilbur Smith Associates

Public Meetings are planned for late 2006. Citizen Design Team meetings will continue throughout 2006.

C O N T A C T S

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